GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEFENCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:575 ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006 INCREASE IN ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN ARMY AND TERRORISTS Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of encounters between the army and terrorists have increased during the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of soldiers and terrorists killed in these encounters during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken to contain the terrorist attacks on the army?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Due to the ascendancy gained by the Security Forces, the terrorists are avoiding direct contact with the Army.

(c) During January to June 2006, the Army has killed 268 terrorists. The total number of soldiers killed during the same period is 23.

(d) Upgradation and improvement of security arrangements to contain the terrorist attacks on the Army is a continuous process. It includes improvements in intelligence gathering, periodic review of security of military establishments, intensification of patrolling for surveillance and area domination, deployment of Quick Reaction teams (QRTs) and conduct of synergized intelligence based operations in adjoining areas, provision of state of art weapons and equipment to soldiers, etc.